

## The Watchman and Southerner

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27.

The *Watchman and Southerner* was founded in 1884 and the *True Southerner* in 1886. The *Watchman and Southerner* has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is undoubtedly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

We are in receipt of a Pamphlet, on the tariff question, signed by David A. Wells and Thos. G. Sherman, which contains some very forcible arguments against protection.

An address delivered by Hon. Chas. W. Jones, U. S. Senator, from Florida, on the Life and Work of Thomas Jefferson, is on our table. We tender thanks for the same.

A neat pamphlet on "Columbia's Great Schools," containing an account of the organization of the public schools in Columbia, and more especially the history of the present system of schools, was received and placed on our table. We will notice it more at length in the future.

The National Cotton Planters Association was called to order on Wednesday the 21st instant, at Vicksburg, by President Morehead. The number of delegates was large—twelve States were represented. Mr. Morehead delivered the annual address. The Association adjourned on Friday.

J. B. Jones's gin-house, on the waters of the Mississippi, near Natchez, on the 10th and 11th, 3,561 bales of cotton were ginned.

A large cotton steamer was burned on the Mississippi, near Natchez, on the 10th and 11th, 3,561 bales of cotton were ginned.

The residence of Lewis W. Hester, on Liberty Hill, Kershaw County, was destroyed by an accidental fire on the 10th instant.

The dwelling-house of W. H. Hester, of Kershaw County, was burned down on Friday night. Supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

The old Jeter gin-house, in Union, was burned last week, together with the cotton press, engine, and four bales of cotton.

Major J. C. Steedman's gin-house, in Union County, together with thirty bales of cotton, a fine gin, screw and engine, &c., was destroyed by fire last week.

There are 47 postmasters in the United States who receive only one dollar a year salary. They take their pay in the form of reading postal cards.

The value of South Carolina property that year, as returned for taxation, is \$400,000,000, an increase over the year of \$5,167,012.

If the Press of the State were as strong with their columns as the Fair Association is with the money they spend for advertising, where would the Fair be?—*Columbia Register*.

We answer, no where. The *Laurensville Herald* also has something to say on this subject, and would it not be well if the entire Press, press this matter on the attention of the management. It means they may be impressed.

The *Laurensville Review* says: "The State Fair, this year, was the most successful one that has ever been held in South Carolina. It was attended by a larger crowd than last year, and there were more than 100,000 people on the fair grounds, although the weather was cold and cloudy, was estimated at 2,000."

A dispatch from Rome to the London Exchange Telegraph Company states that the Pope has created Mr. F. W. Hannon, editor of the *News and Courier*, of Charleston, S. C., a Knight of the Order of St. George, for the stand he has taken in his paper against dueling.

The inspiring sunshine of the season has touched the heart of a Columbia girl, who concludes a love letter thus: "The ring is round, the disk is round, and we will be married the next New Year's Day. The bell shall ring, the drum shall play, and we'll go dancing all the way." Answer soon."

WASHINGTON, November 24.—President Arthur late this afternoon issued a pardon to Sergeant Mason, now confined in Albany penitentiary under sentence of eight years imprisonment for attempting to shoot Guiteau. The pardon will be mailed to-night in order that it may reach Albany Monday next.

The merchants of Charleston are talking about getting up excursions and excursions for the purpose of attracting trade. If they would spend more money in advertising in the rural papers their country cousins would go to the city by the sea, just as surely as the rivers run to the ocean. But for their geography a good many of the rising generations would think that Charleston is no bigger or better than Blackville.—*Barnwell People*.

## THE STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

We are glad to see that this Board has each year made improvements upon the questions prepared for the examination of teachers, and for 1884 they have made a most important addition. The following resolution was adopted at the last meeting:

Resolved, That the examination of teachers before county boards of examiners shall include a series of questions upon the theory and practice of teaching; and that "Methods of Teaching," by John Swett, and "Art of School Management," by J. Baldwin, be recommended as books of reference.

In compliance with the term of this resolution, the examination papers for January, 1884, will include a series of questions upon the Theory and Practice of Teaching.

The public are not sure of the continuance of the present school system. Very many oppose it, others are indifferent, and there is an uncertain feeling as to its permanency and its benefits. We think, however, that the system will continue. The general sentiment of the educated world is in favor of an intimate connection of School and State. In Europe, where it has long been tried, no backward steps are taken, and the maintenance of public schools is looked upon as one of the necessary duties of the government. In this country, however, it has not been so complete

a success, but we believe that improved methods and a denser population will eventually make it all it ought to be. In our own State, with much to hinder, some progress has been made, and we see no reason why our schools should not continue to improve. For these reasons we believe that common schools are a fixed institution, and it is the part of wisdom to make the most out of them possible.

Many improvements must be made. We need better teachers, better rooms and furniture, and more practical rules for the management of the system. In widening the scope of the questions prepared for those applying for teachers' stipulations, the first important requirement—better teachers—will be brought about. A large amount of the teaching done in the free common schools of South Carolina is a simple travesty on a teacher's work. With no experience, but little education, and an interest in the work commensurate only with a meagre salary, it could not be otherwise, and this very fact has done much to injure common schools in the estimation of the people. Good, capable teachers could work a complete revolution in the popularity of this all important matter, in a few years; school patrons would be willing to supplement the salaries paid by the State, the school term would be lengthened, and the present indifference felt towards free schools would be a thing of the past.

There is no doubt but that we are retrograding in educational facilities; private schools are almost unknown in the country, and persons living there are obliged to send their children off to school, or move into town for the same purpose. It is not only the colored people who need schools, for the whites are furnishing many recruits to the army of illiterates already so large.

There is an urgent need, then, for us to improve our schools, and the State Board of Examiners have taken one step in the right direction by requiring of teachers some knowledge of "Methods of Teaching" and the "Art of School Management."

## THE STATE FAIR

Was a success. A large attendance thronged the grounds each day of the exhibition, and Columbia's capacity for entertaining visitors was tested to its utmost limit.

The financial exhibit was good, more than \$8,000 having been taken in. The list of prizes given out fill four closely printed columns of the *Register*, of which Sumter gets a small share. Our County can boast of its fine horses, but in all else we are far behind many of our sister Counties. The fire works on Friday night were wonderfully fine, and notwithstanding the biting cold, were witnessed by about 8,000 people.

The following is a list of articles for which premiums were awarded to our folks:

Reeled Silk—Ladies Association.  
Stock Cows—T. O. Sanders, 2nd premium.  
Best Bottle Apple Wine—Mrs. J. W. Cooper.  
Silk Half Hose—Mrs. W. R. Delgar.  
Tattooing Collar—Mrs. W. R. Delgar.  
Best Light Draft Stallion, 3 yrs.—W. R. Delgar.  
Best Matched Horses—Open to the World—W. M. Graham.  
Best Matched Mares—Open to the World—W. M. Graham.  
Best Matched, one of each sex—Open to the World—W. M. Graham.  
Best Single Harness Horse—W. M. Graham.  
Best Saddle Mare—M. Moise, 2nd Premium.  
Best Thoroughbred Mare, 4 yrs.—W. R. Delgar.  
Best Jersey Cow, 3 yrs.—W. R. Delgar, 2nd Premium.

In looking over the entire premium list, we were struck with the fact that but few counties participated in this Fair—many are not represented in any way—and while it may be said that the fault of this neglect lies with the delinquent counties, we are not at all sure that it is so. There is no effort whatever made by the County to give information to the people, outside of a few notices given in the Charleston and Columbia papers, and many think that if the Fair is worth anything, it is worth talking about. This silence has a bad effect, and the money spent by judicious advertising in the County Press would be a good investment, and yield substantial returns. We believe the gentlemen at the head of the State Fair are conscientiously striving to lay the foundations of its future prosperity deep in the hearts of our people, but they make a grave mistake in ignoring the assistance of the County Newspaper. They make a still graver mistake in not ignoring the assistance of gamblers, fakirs and other light-fingered gentry, who crowded the Fair grounds and openly plied their avocation during the time of the Fair. Gambling can be prevented at such times, but we regret that no successful effort was made to check this demoralizing crime. The officers should not allow any gambling within the grounds at our State Fair.

## Clarendon Items.

About 5,000 acres of land and a large amount of personal property will be sold in December sale day.

Sam McDuffie, a colored train hand fell from a construction train last Tuesday and had his foot badly mashed.

There was no preaching in the Baptist Church, Manning, on Sunday as the pastor, Rev. J. W. Perry, was absent at the Convention.

The ladies of Calvary Church will give an entertainment on the 6th of December.

Last Wednesday, about four miles from Manning Sam Gardner shot and killed Lander Davis. Both were colored. A woman was at the bottom of the trouble.

A number of boys congregated in the vestibule of the Baptist Church last Sunday night and disturbed the congregation while worshipping.

## Our Contemporaries.

The *Seneca Free Press*, a new venture in journalism, is published in Seneca City, Oconee County, and comes to us redolent of the breezy freshness of its mountain home.

The *Laurensville Herald* is thirty-eight years old, but has only had the fun of celebrating thirty-seven birth days, one having been lost in some mysterious way. It contains gratifying evidences of prosperity, and our sister County has a paper of which she ought to be, and doubtless is, very proud.

The *Edgefield Monitor* is in its sixth year. It has long outgrown baby ways, in fact, we are not sure it ever had any, but sprang fully grown into the journalistic arena.

The *Columbia Register* comes out new all over, and much improved in appearance. Friend Calvo is giving the people of Columbia and the State generally, a first class newspaper and he richly deserves a subscription list as long as the Atlantic Cable.

The *Register* is noted for its splendid reports of legislative proceedings, and our readers could not do better than to subscribe for this paper during the session of the Legislature.

The *Lexington Dispatch* has passed its fourteenth birthday. Like all good people, as it grows older it grows larger and better. Our best wishes attend it during the coming year.

The *Carolina Sun* and *Marlboro Monitor* are now published as one paper under the name of *The Sun and Monitor*, at Cheraw and Bennettsville. It has taken a big job on its hands, running two counties and three towns, but luck is half the battle, and generally wins.

The *Orangeburg Times* and *Democrat* comes out in a new dress, and looks too sweet. We wish our good neighbor would stop coquetting with Sam Randall, and let Mr. Dibble do that.

The *Camden Journal* now comes out with eight large pages.

The *Sunny South*, Atlanta, Ga., has moved into more convenient quarters, and congratulates itself, that subscribers can call and pay their subscriptions, without having to climb half a dozen flights of stairs.

Major McLucas, has, as we noticed before, moved to Laurens, and the *Merchants and Farmers* on hand from its new headquarters. The citizens of that County now have two good papers.

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

[From our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24, 1883.

Before this letter reaches your readers there will probably be an *éclaircissement* of the political situation, at least so far as the election of a speaker of the House is concerned, and since we are so near the event, it will not be prudent for me to make predictions. I will confine myself to a summary of the facts which there is less margin for blunders.

It is known that the now famous address of Mahone was written by George C. Gorham; at one time the Clerk of the Senate, and ever since a seeker for re-instatement in that office. For the last four years he has been one of the Editors of the "National Republican" of this city, a paper that has been devoted almost exclusively to the now lost cause of Mahoning the South. If any man is more disappointed than Mahone over the collapse of the "Great Mahone Movement" it is Gorham. The so-called Mahone address though weak and inconsistent, is as a piece of literature a little above the mass of Mahone, and it abounds in the rubbish out of which the editorials of the National Republican have been composed.

All opponents of degenerate, shrieking, lying, latter day republicanism should rejoice that it has dug up this bloody shirt relic, and taken it for its banner. They should rejoice and be exceeding glad that Mahone is now the sergeant Bates of the most ensanguined neither garment, and that he bears it aloft in Virginia. Virginia, by the way, is just across the Potomac and under the shadow of the Capitol. Unlike the states in which the bloody shirt has been so frantically flapped in the past, she is accessible to all who wish to know the truth. If there has been murder and intimidation for political effect it should be known; it cannot be hid. The battle fields of Virginia were, yesterday, the scenes of the fratricidalization of the veterans of the once belligerent armies, and the revival of the diabolical desperation of the beaten politicians.

I had intended avoiding the speakership question but I would not have you think your correspondent lacks enterprise as a news gatherer, and I will say that the very latest reliable information is, that Mr. Randall is to be elected speaker, also Mr. Carlisle, and Mr. Cox, and Mr. Springer. The fight has narrowed down to this absolute certainty. Mr. Randall has assurances that he will receive 107 votes, for Mr. Carlisle is certain that he will get not less than 120. Mr. Cox has positive knowledge that ninety of his colleagues will vote for him on the first ballot. Mr. Springer does not trouble himself about the first ballot, but knows that he will receive enough votes on the last ballot to elect him. This prospect ought to make a great many people happy, while those who do not reach have only to remember the prosperous financial condition of our government, as recently brought to light by the annual report of U. S. Treasurer Wyman, the substance of which is; that the U. S. Treasury is overflowing with money; that the public debt is being swiftly reduced; that the financial operations of the government are successful; that the largest part of our national debt is owned by our citizens; and that the most imminent danger threatening the future of the country is an excess of the "root of all evil" in the Public Treasury.

Pennsylvania Avenue has been crowded with promenaders every afternoon of this week. Fashionable people devote the mornings to shopping and the late hours of the afternoon to walking—just for the sake of walking. But the brides and grooms who flock to Washington in great numbers at this season, are no respecters of hours, and may be seen all day long in the full glory of their new clothes, immaculate gloves and faultless ribbons. The hotels are crowded with this almost unmistakable species of humanity, who "do the sights" of the city in a dreamy, confused fashion, trying to pretend they see what they are looking at, when all the time they are interested only in themselves. One rustic bride, a rosy-cheeked brunette, attracted a good deal of attention one afternoon, by displaying in her elaborately constructed street toilet, every tint of the rainbow. She was blissfully ignorant of her sensational position, and walked with that serene complacency which the consciousness of perfect clothes alone can give.

## [Continued from last week.]

## ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## OF SUMTER COUNTY,

## FOR THE

## Fiscal Year Ending October 31, 1883.

## APPROVED ACCOUNTS.

The following Accounts have been approved and Audited since October 31st, 1882:

1882. Clerk of Court.

Nov 25 Watchman and Southerner Blank Warrants. \$18 00

Dec 10 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, Books, &c. 16 00

Dec 15 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, Ink, Supplies, &c. 10 25

1883.

Feb Wm H Cuttino, Clerk, services February Court, 82 25

Feb 13 Watchman and Southerner, Printing Line Record Books, 21 90

Mar 22 A. A. Solomons, Record Books, &c. 8 25

Mar 15 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, Books, &c. 15 00

May Wm H Cuttino, Clerk, services May Court, 32 25

Aug 17 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, Binding Line Book, 3 42

Aug 21 Dr. J. China, Supplies, Clerk's Office, 3 00

Sep 28 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, Books, &c. 55 35

Oct 13 Wm H Cuttino, Clerk, Services October Court, 78 20

Total, \$344 75

1882. Sheriff's Accounts.

Nov 30 R W Durant, Shff, Serving Criminal Process, \$84 05

Nov 30 R W Durant, Dieting Prisoners, 26 75

Dec 2 R W Durant, Shff, Necessary for Jail, 3 45

Dec 22 R W Durant, Shff, Serving criminal process, 30 75

Dec 30 R W Durant, Shff, Dieting prisoners, 115 10

1883.

Jan 31 R W Durant, Shff, Dieting prisoners, 136 75

Jan 15 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, writ book, 22 00

Feb 6 R W Durant, Shff, serving papers court gen'l sessions, 87 90

Feb 10 R W Durant, Shff, conveying convicts, 45 25

Feb 15 R W Durant, Shff, dieting prisoners, 77 85

Mar 15 R W Durant, Shff, conveying prisoners, 18 47

Mar 30 R W Durant, Shff, conveying prisoners, 14 80

Mar 30 R W Durant, Shff, dieting prisoners, 77 15

Apr 10 R W Durant, Shff, expense of posse, 18 30

Apr 25 R W Durant, Shff, N B dieting convicts, 8 00

Apr 30 R W Durant, Shff, dieting prisoners, 119 00

May 31 R W Durant, Shff, dieting prisoners, 79 00

Jun 15 R W Durant, Shff, conveying convicts, 31 20

Jun 9 R W Durant, Shff, serving process May court, 95 45

Jun 30 R W Durant, Shff, dieting prisoners, 52 60

Jul 31 R W Durant, Shff, dieting prisoners, 117 85

Aug 6 R W Durant, Shff, conveying prisoner, under Governor's requisition, 84 77

Aug 31 R W Durant, Shff, dieting prisoners, 155 65

Sep 30 R W Durant, Shff, dieting prisoners, 187 95

Oct 8 R W Durant, Shff, conveying convicts, 61 70

Oct 31 R W Durant, Shff, dieting prisoners, 122 40

Total, \$1,815 04

1882. County Auditor.

Dec 21 Lewis Robinson, wood for office, \$2 50

1883.

Mar 15 July Laws, wood for office, 2 00

May 7 Spirit of the Times, advertising, 11 00

May 8 Watchman & Southerner, advertising, 15 15

May 14 Darr & Parmelee, advertising, 11 00

May 16 W R Delgar, Auditor, office supplies, 6 75

Jun 15 W R Delgar, Auditor services assessing, 201 00

Aug 21 W R Delgar, Auditor, services assessing, 109 00

Sep 20 Spirit of the Times, blanks for Auditor, 1 25

Oct 23 July Laws, wood for Auditor, 6 00

Total, \$455 55

1883. County Treasurer.

Apr 17 Watchman & Southerner, advertising, \$4 65

Apr 25 Darr & Parmelee, advertising, 6 66

May 2 Spirit of the Times, advertising, 6 67

Jul 21 Spirit of the Times, advertising, 6 66

Jul 31 Darr & Parmelee, advertising, 6 66

Jul 31 Watchman & Southerner, advertising, 8 00

Total, \$39 30

1883. Master.

Jan 31 G Richardson, exor, rent office for master, 15 00

Apr 11 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, 1 04

Apr 30 G Richardson, exor, rent office for master, 15 00

May 11 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, 4 50

May 30 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, 8 75

July 31 G Richardson, Exor, rent office for master, 15 00

Oct 31 G Richardson, exor, rent office for master, 15 00

Total, \$74 29

1883. School Commissioner.

Jan 13 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, stationery, &c., 21 54

July 16 J Diggs Wilder, school com's office supplies, 10 04

Oct 31 E Solomons, exor, rent of school commissioner, 60 00

Total, \$91 58

1882. Judge of Probate.

November 28 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, books, supplies for office, \$3 77

November 29 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, office supplies, 1 22

March 3 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, guardian record book, 10 00

March 10 Edie Perry, book, deeded land, 20 00

March 24 Watchman & Southerner, printing for office, &c., 12 00

May 24 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, books, &c., 5 55

July 31 R S Bradwell, jr., repairs on iron safe, 10 75

September 15 Walker, Evans & Cogswell, office supplies, 1 75

Total, \$65 04

1883. County Officers.

Jan 31 Blanding & Blanding, professional services 3 months, \$50 00

Apr 30 Blanding & Blanding, professional services, 3 months, 50 00

Oct 31 Blanding & Blanding, professional services 6 months, 100 00

Total, \$200 00

1883. Jury Commissioner.

Jan 1 P Loring, making out annual jury list, 1883, \$15 00

Feb 28 Dr. N. Raffield, services, February court, 23 80

May 29 W N Raffield, services May court, 6 80

Oct 3 W N Raffield, services October court, 34 00

Total, \$79 60

## Court Expenses.

Feb B R Weeks, constable, \$4 60

Feb John Craig, constable, 5 30

Feb S S Wells, constable, 2 35

Feb B R Bradwell, constable, 12 10

Feb S A Norris, constable, 11 40

Feb Capers Andrews, constable, 16 30

Feb H G Moise, constable, 14 10